

CHARTER  
WESTERN HEMISPHERE INSTITUTE  
FOR SECURITY OPERATIONS BOARD OF VISITORS

- A. Official Designation: The Committee shall be known as the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation Board of Visitors (hereafter referred to as the Board).
- B. Objectives and Scope of Activity: The Board, under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 2166(e), and the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, as amended, shall provide the Secretary of Defense, through the Secretary of the Army, independent advice and recommendations on matters pertaining to the operations and management of the Institute. Under the provisions of 10 U.S.C. § 2166(e) the Board shall:
- 1) Inquire into the curriculum instruction, physical equipment, fiscal affairs, and academic methods of the Institute, other matters relating to the Institute that the Board decides to consider, and any other matter that the Secretary of Defense determines appropriate;
  - 2) Review the curriculum to determine whether it adheres to U.S. doctrine, complies with applicable U.S. laws or regulations, and is consistent with U.S. policy goals towards the Western Hemisphere; and
  - 3) Determine whether the Institute emphasizes human rights to include the rule of law, due process, civilian control of the military, and the role of the military in a democratic society.
- C. Board Membership: As prescribed by 10 U.S.C. § 2166(e)(1) the thirteen-member Board shall be composed of:
- 1) Two Members of the Senate (the Chair and Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee or their designees);
  - 2) Two Members of the House of Representatives (the Chair and Ranking Member of the Armed Services Committee or their designees);
  - 3) One person designated by the Secretary of State; the senior military officer responsible for training and education in the U.S. Army (or designee); the Commander, U.S. Southern Command (or designee); and
  - 4) Six persons designated by the Secretary of Defense including, to the extent practicable, persons from academia, religious institutions, and human rights communities.
- Board Members appointed by the Secretary of Defense, who are not full-time Federal officers or employees, shall serve as Special Government Employees under the authority of 5 U.S.C. § 3109. Those Board Members appointed by the Secretary of Defense shall be appointed for a two-year term, which may be extended for an additional term of two years, and with the exception of travel and per diem for official travel, they shall serve without compensation.
- Whenever possible, appointments shall be staggered to avoid complete turnover of Board Members at any one time. In addition, the Board may be assisted by non-voting subject matter experts or consultants. These consultants are designated at the request of the Board by the Secretary of the Army with concurrence of the Secretary of Defense.
- D. Board Meetings: The Board shall meet at the call of the Designated Federal Officer, in consultation with the Chairperson, and the estimated number of Board meetings is two per year. The Board shall be authorized to establish subcommittees, as necessary, to fulfill its mission, and these subcommittees shall operate under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972, as amended.

- E. Duration: The need for this advisory function is on a continuing basis, but its charter is subject to renewal every two years.
- F. Agency Support: The Department of Defense, through the Secretary of the Army, shall provide administrative and support services as deemed necessary for the performance of the Board's functions, and shall ensure compliance with reporting requirements of 5 U.S.C. App. 2 Section 6.
- G. Termination Date: The Board shall terminate upon recession of 10 U.S.C. § 2166(e).
- H. Operating Costs: It is estimated that the total annual operating costs, to include staff salaries, travel costs and meeting and contract support is approximately \$125,000.00 and 2.0 Full-Time Equivalent (FTE).
- I. Filing Date: February 1, 2006